

Research Activity Panel Meeting Summary
Chris Harrold, Monterey Bay Aquarium, RAP Chair

JANUARY 2004 RAP MEETING

Host: Naval Postgraduate School
Friday, January 9, 2004 9am to 12pm

In Attendance:

Members:

Chris Harrold, Monterey Bay Aquarium - Chair
Jeff Paduan, Naval Postgraduate School- Vice Chair
Andrew DeVogelaere, MBNMS- RAP Coordinator
Greg Cailliet, Moss Landing Marine Labs
Mary Yoklavich, NOAA/NMFS
Mark Carr, UCSC
Leslie Rosenfeld, Naval Postgraduate School
Geoff Wheat, NOAA/NURP
Aaron King, Institute for MPA Science
Gary Sharp, Center for Climate/Ocean Resources Study

Guests:

Jennifer Parkin, MBNMS
Irina Kogan, MBARI/MBNMS
Steve Lonhart, MBNMS/SIMoN
Lydia Bergen, PISCO
Ed Thornton, Naval Postgraduate School
Frances Michaelis, United Nations Atlas of the Oceans
Toby Garfield, CICOR, CSUSF
Brad Damitz, MBNMS

PRESENTATIONS

Institutional Update: Naval Postgraduate School (Ed Thornton)

Ed Thornton gave a presentation on “Rips, Cusps, and Dune Erosion in Southern Monterey Bay”. Researchers from the Naval Postgraduate School have been conducting a long term study of rip currents in southern Monterey Bay because the geography of the area makes it one of the best places to do so. Measurements of rip currents, cusps, and dune processes are taken by LIDAR flights, video coverage at three sites, and GPS surveys. The conclusions of this study include: that large beach cusps and rip current morphology are correlated; that rip scale is a function of directional band width and wave energy; and that dune erosion and large beach cusps have the same length scales. For more information please go to www.nps.navy.mil.

Desalination Plants in Monterey Bay (Brad Damitz)

As requested by the RAP at their last meeting, Brad presented an overall background on desalination plants and the current status in the Sanctuary. Brad presented some reasons for investigating desalination plants; using desalination reduces the reliance on imported fresh water and it is not affected by drought. However, there are impacts with desalination: intake/outfall water (brine effluent), construction in coastal zones, growth inducing (making fresh water more readily available), and damage to endangered species habitats. Presently there are no standards in the industry and Brad asked if the RAP could keep this in mind for potential input on reviewing EIS/EIR documents, citing guidelines, defining environmental standards, and monitoring programs. For more information email Brad at brad.damitz@noaa.gov or http://sanctuaries.nos.noaa.gov/jointplan/mb_desal.html.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Update from December SAC meeting (Chris Harrold)

Among other items, there was a half day of discussions on the boundary issue (changing the northern boundary of MBNMS and southern boundary of GFNMS to Ano Nuevo). Dan Basta has promised to make a decision by January 31, 2004. The Sanctuary Research Team also gave a presentation on their activities in 2003. This presentation was well received.

Update on RAP Chair (Andrew DeVogelaere)

Terms are up for the RAP Chair/SAC Representative. Both Chris Harrold and Jeff Paduan have served well and have completed applications to serve for the next term. A decision will be made by a SAC subcommittee with Bill Douros, and a final decision by Headquarters.

Research Team Report for 2003 (Andrew DeVogelaere)

The SAC asked for an annual report on all field projects that the research team has done in the last year. A compilation of reports, abstracts, etc. was put on CD and handed out. Please contact Andrew (Andrew.devogelaere@noaa.gov) for additional copies.

Update on Sanctuary Currents Awards (Andrew DeVogelaere)

The Ricketts Lecture award goes to John Pearse and the Research/Science award to Pete Ramondi. John will be presenting a talk about long-term intertidal monitoring at the Sanctuary Currents Symposium.

NEW BUSINESS

Agenda items for future meetings

Discussion on how *R/V McArthur* time is determined by Sanctuaries.

Invite Huff McGonigal to discuss trawl impacts and how to design a trawl impact study.

Discussion on unsolicited RFP's in relation to SIMoN.

Invitation of the new CenCOOS Coordinator.

Goals for 2004

Develop options to improve communications across sanctuaries with respect to research.